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REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 25, 2007.

Claims 1-19 were pending. By this Amendment, claims 13, 16 and 19 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, new dependent claim 20 has been added, and claims 1-6, 11, 14 and 17 have been amended to clarify, without narrowing a scope of, the claimed subject matter. Accordingly. claims 1-12, 14, 15, 17 and 18 are now pending, with claims 1-10 being in independent form.

The Office Action states that the title is too lengthy.

By this Amendment, the title has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions.

Claims 11, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter.

By this Amendment, claims 13, 16 and 19 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 11, 14 and 17 have been amended to clarify, without narrowing a scope of, the claimed subject matter.

Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as purportedly anticipated by JP 11-239238 (Ozeki).

Applicant has carefully considered the Examiner's comments and the cited art, and respectfully submits that independent claims 1-10 are patentable over the cited art, for at least the following reasons.

This application relates to a facsimile apparatus which is coupled to a telephone line

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network and a local area network and has a backup function. Document data received by the facsimile apparatus is stored into a first memory inaccessible through the local area network, and if the received document data is not confidential, the received document data is copied into a second memory accessible through the local area network. Each of independent claims 1-10 addresses these features, as well as additional features. Thus, so long as the received document data is not confidential, the received document data (or copy thereof) will be stored in both the second memory (accessible through the local area network) and the first memory (inaccessible through the local area network). On the other hand, received document data that is confidential is stored only in the first memory (inaccessible through the local area network).

Ozeki, as understood by Applicant, proposes an approach for handling (and security) of confidential documents received by facsimile equipment wherein when a confidential document addressed to a particular user is received by the facsimile equipment, the confidential document is stored into a personal BOX reserved for storing confidential documents directed to the user, and the user can access the confidential document via a browser through the web by entering an ID and a password.

Contrary to the contention in the Office Action, Ozeki does not teach or suggest that non-confidential data is stored in both a first memory that is inaccessible through the local area network and a second memory that is accessible through the local area network.

Ozeki, [0027] through [0036], discusses the method shown in Drawing 2 of Ozeki, and it is clear therefrom that received data is stored in only one of either the individual BOX 121 (accessible through the web by entry of ID and password) or the shared BOX 122 (accessible through the web by any user). Drawing 2 of Ozeki clearly shows that for each received

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document *either* step A6, in which the received document is stored in the individual BOX 121,

or step A7, in which the received document is stored in the shared BOX 122, is performed, but

not both.

Ozeki fails to teach or suggest (i) storing the received document data into the first

memory and a copy of the received document data into a second memory, as provided by

independent claims 1 through 6 of the present application, and (ii) storing the received document

data into the first memory and copying the received document data into a second memory, as

provided by independent claims 7 through 10 of the present application.

Further, Ozeki proposes that the received document, in each instance, is stored in a BOX

that is accessible through the web (although the user will need to enter an ID and password if the

received document is confidential). Thus, in the approach proposed by Ozeki, a data

transmission request from a web browser through the local area network is not automatically

refused if the received document data is confidential. When the received document data is

confidential, the user will be prompted for an ID and a password. If the correct ID and password

is entered, the user can access the confidential document.

Ozeki fails to teach or suggest storing received document data into a first memory

inaccessible through the local area network, as provided by each of independent claims 1 through

10 of the present application.

Ozeki also fails to teach or suggest refusing a data transmission request from the web

browser through the local area network when the received document data is confidential, as

provided by independent claims 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8-10 of the present application.

Accordingly, for at least the above-stated reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that

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independent claims 1-10, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentable over the cited art.

In view of the remarks hereinabove, Applicant submits that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicant earnestly solicits the allowance of the application.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees that are required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Teng, Reg. No. 40,837
Attorney for Applicant
Cooper & Dunham LLP
Tel.: (212) 278-0400